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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-7. Cancelled

8. (Currently Amended) A friendship object kit comprising ~~at least~~ a pair of plush animal-shaped friendship objects that are packaged and sold together, wherein a first plush animal-shaped friendship object of the pair is for a first person to keep and a second plush animal-shaped friendship object of the pair is for a second person to receive from the first person, the first and second plush animal-shaped friendship objects each comprising:

a body having a head and a tail;

a connecting mechanism ~~to enable~~ that enables multiple plush animal-shaped friendship objects from different pairs of plush animal-shaped friendship objects to be ~~directly, physically linked to one another~~ together, the connecting mechanism comprising a first connection component extending from an upper surface of the body between the head and the tail, and a second connection component associated with a lower surface of the body;

and

~~wherein each of the first and second friendship objects includes~~ a voice-chip with a personalized, audible message.

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9. (Currently Amended) A friendship object kit comprising ~~at least~~ a pair of plush animal-shaped friendship objects that are packaged and sold together, wherein a first plush animal-shaped friendship object of the pair is for a first person to keep and a second plush animal-shaped friendship object of the pair is for a second person to receive from the first person, the first and second plush animal-shaped friendship objects each comprising:

a body having a head and a tail;

a connecting mechanism ~~to enable~~ that enables multiple plush animal-shaped friendship objects from different pairs of plush animal-shaped friendship objects to be ~~directly, physically linked to one another together,~~ the connecting mechanism comprising a first connection component extending from an upper surface of the body between the head and the tail, and a second connection component associated with a lower surface of the body;

and

~~wherein each of the first and second friendship objects comprises a voice recording and playback mechanism to enable each of the first and second friendship objects to be personalized~~ personalization by an audible message.

Claims 10-17. Cancelled

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18. (Currently Amended) The friendship object kit of claim ~~17~~ 8, wherein the first and second plush animal-shaped friendship objects ~~comprise substantially~~ are identical ~~animal-shaped objects to one another.~~

19. (Currently Amended) The friendship object kit of claim ~~17~~ 8, wherein the first and second plush animal-shaped friendship objects ~~comprise~~ are different ~~animal-shaped objects from one another.~~

20. (Currently Amended) The friendship object kit of claim of claim 8, wherein the ~~connecting mechanism~~ first connection component comprises ~~at least~~ a jewelry clasp.

21. (Currently Amended) The friendship object kit of claim of claim 8, wherein the ~~connecting mechanism~~ second connection component comprises hook and loop fastener material.

22. Cancelled

23. (Currently Amended) The friendship object kit of claim ~~22~~ 9, wherein the first and second plush animal-shaped friendship objects ~~comprise substantially~~ are identical ~~animal-shaped objects to one another.~~

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24. (Currently Amended) The friendship object kit of claim ~~22~~ 9, wherein the first and second plush animal-shaped friendship objects ~~comprise~~ are different ~~animal-shaped objects~~ from one another.

25. (Currently Amended) The friendship object kit of claim of claim 9, wherein the ~~connecting mechanism~~ first connection component comprises ~~at least~~ a jewelry clasp.

26. (Currently Amended) The friendship object kit of claim of claim 9, wherein the ~~connecting mechanism~~ second connection component comprises hook and loop fastener ~~material~~.

27. Cancelled